

The Dolbow House
(Alias The Richard Brick House)
Near Woodstown
Mannington Township, Salem County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-615

HABS
NJ
17-WOODSTOWN
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

HABS
N.J.
17-WOODSTOWN

The Dolbow House
(Alias The Richard Brick House)*
Near Woodstown#
Mannington Township, Salem County, New Jersey

4-

Owner and occupant: Harry Dolbow

Date of Erection: Main unit 1750* or earlier, with two
additions later

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Richard Brick (d. 1795) original owner*

Present Condition: Original

Number of Stories: Two and one-half over cellar

Materials of Construction:

Foundation - brick

Exterior walls - brick, laid up in Flemish
bond

Interior walls - brick party walls and frame
partitions plastered

Chimneys - brick built into inside of gable
end walls

Roof - wood shingled gable on two main units;
modern sheetiron on leanto; unique surviv-
ing original pent roof over first story
windows (with hood over central doorway)
of north front and evidence of same formerly
on south front of largest unit

Stairways - all box stairs of winding steps

Fireplaces - altered for iron "Franklin" stove
or closed up; mantels removed

* "Richard (Brick).....built this house in 1750.....
It is now owned and occupied by Harry Dolbow and family."
(Jos. S. Sickler, The Old Houses of Salem County, 1934,p.2)
The design of the largest and original unit is similar to
that of the William Hancock House (NJ-54) which bears date
1734. (L.D.C.)

The house fronts the S.E. side of the so-called Compromise
Road (a section of the old Salem Road) between Swedes Bridge
Road and Colliers Run or brook, S.W. of Woodstown.

Historical Data:

Search of the title to this property as found recorded in the County archives in order to determine the name of the owner at the time of the erection of the house is reported as follows:

By an unrecorded deed of 17 May 1735, William Smith and wife Sarah of Mannington Township, Salem County, conveyed to John Brick of Cohansey, same county, a 400 acre tract having a frontage of some 1400 feet on the southeast side of the Old Salem Road at the northeast corner of the intersecting Swedes Bridge Road in said Mannington Township, on which tract stands the house here surveyed as proved by chain of title to the present.

The grantee may be identified with either John Brick the emigrant^(a) or his son John Brick Jr. This evidence contradicts the statement first issued in print in 1876 (and uncritically repeated in 1882 and 1934) that Richard Brick, therein said to have been third son of John the emigrant, purchased and occupied the tract^(b). One Richard Brick was living

(a) John Brick, b. in Engld., emigrated to Salem before 1680, purchased about 1690 from Samuel Deming of Maryland a large tract on south side of Gravelly Run, a branch of Stoe Creek, on which the village of Jericho developed. Four sons: John the eldest, Joshua of vicinity of Maurice River, Richard of Mannington Twp., and Samuel the youngest. (Thos. Shourds, Hist. & Geneal. of Fenwick's Colony, 1876, p. 42). Per contra, the Will of this John Brick, Esq., of Cohansey, Salem Co., dated 29 Aug. 1737 and proved 26 Apr. 1753, names wife Hannah, sons William, Joshua, Joseph and John, and daughters Elizābeth Dunlap and Hannah Hancock. (Abstract of Will, publ. in N.J. Archives XXXII, 40.)

(b) Richard Brick, third son, purchased a 500 acre tract in Mannington Twp., adjacent to the Hedgefield tract, and "was a larger farmer; likewise carrying on the tanning and carrying business very extensively. He left one son, John Brick, I think he never married. At his death his real estate was purchased by his cousin Joshua Brick of Port Elizabeth and Isaac Townsend of the same place and they conveyed it to the late Jesse Boyd." (Shourds, cited above, p. 42. Cf. Cushing & Sheppard, Hist. of the Counties of Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland N.J., 1882, p. 434, and Jos. S. Sickler, The Old Houses of Salem Co., 1934, p. 2, The Richard Brick House).

in Cohansey in 1719, on 9 August of which year he is of record as witness to a will(c). If he was in fact a son of the emigrant John Brick, he may have been deceased by 29 August 1737, the date of the latter's will in which he is not mentioned.

No deed is found on record by which John Brick the grantee abovenamed conveyed this 400 acre tract to said Richard Brick or other party, so that the source of the printed statement of its purchase by the latter is not available, and the said line of title between them is open.

Richard Brick, named in the three printed accounts cited in (b) and definitely in the third as the builder of the house here surveyed, may have been a grandson of the emigrant John Brick, rather than a son, as appears by deduction from the fact that evidently he was the Richard who died in Mannington as late as 1795, and leaving an only child, a minor son John Brick.(d)

Again in contradiction to a statement in Shourds' account(b) that the real estate of the son John Brick was sold "at his death" is the evidence in a deed dated 6 September 1823, in which one John Brick of Cohansey (supposedly the son of Richard Brick of Mannington abovenamed) conveyed to Joshua Brick and Isaac Townsend, both of Cumberland County, the same 400 acre farm in Mannington first described above, (quote) It being hereby intended to convey the whole of that tract of land which was conveyed by William Smith and Sarah his wife to John Brick of Cohansey by deed dated 17th day of May 1735,

(c) N.J. Archives XXIII, 134.

(d) Abstract from the will of Richard Brick of Mannington Twp., Salem Co., dated 4 April 1795, proved 22 May next, viz. I give and bequeath all my estate to my son John Brick, but if my son John should die before he attains the age of 21, then I give all my estate which I got by my wife, to my brother-in-law Benjamin Low and my sister-in-law Elizabeth Low.

together with all and singular the buildings (e). That this grantor, John Brick of 1823, is not identical with the grantee, same name, 1735, is obvious, and this fact inspires the deductions as to the intervening title from insufficient evidence as above stated.

By deed of division dated 29 August 1829, Joshua Brick, one of the grantees abovenamed, obtained his share of the 400 acre farm from the other, Isaac Townsend, being $164\frac{1}{2}$ acres thereof, fronting on the southeast side of the old Salem Road and on the northeast side of the intersecting Swedes Bridge Road, and on which part stands the house here surveyed. On 13 December 1836, Joshua Brick sold his share to Jesse Bond (f) who passed it to his son Richard Bond by deed of 22 July 1859 and he in turn to Jesse C. Bond on 1st December 1869. From the last named it passed by sheriffs deed of 22 March 1875 to William B. Carpenter, whose executors conveyed it by deed of 7 December 1900 to Charles Mecum and he by deed of same date to Nancy A. Carpenter. Her executors sold it by deed of 2 December 1911 to George W. Hamilton and he by deed of same date to Nancy A. Carpenter. Her executors sold it by deed of 2 December 1911 to George W. Hamilton and he by one of 14 December 1912 to Richard W. Ware who passed it to M. Carll Pedrick on 21 December 1919. The farm was conveyed by Pedrick and others back to Ware on 31 December 1924, and his executors sold it to Harry Dolbow* by deed of 17 April 1928, who remained as owner and occupant at the time of our survey in December 1939. In this last deed, the lines of the $164\frac{1}{2}$ acre farm are described as "Beginning at a stone near the run (brook) at the bridge in the old Salem Road, nearly opposite the house, and along said road to the middle of the Swedes Bridge Road" etc. This part of Salem Road is known also now as Compromise Road, for the school house of that name located at the corner of the second road.

(e) Recorded in Salem Co. Deed Book AB, 426.

(f) Jesse Bond, a noted country school teacher. (Sickler, cited in note b)

* One of same name, also of Mannington Twp., was murdered in his barn on his farm on the old Kings Highway (some 2 miles N.W. of the house here surveyed) on the night of 2 Aug. 1935. (Jos. S. Sickler, The History of Salem County, N.J., 1937, p. 359.)

Reference:

Search of title in land and probate
records of Salem County by Mary N.
Mifflin and Frances Hall, reported
14 July 1939

Lewis D. Cook
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer